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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Oh, wow, you are probably thinking, what have we done? I know that readers have a unique attachment to their favorite publications, just as our college has with its college newspaper. Over the past few years, large news organizations have adapted and made the change to online media, where almost everyone is present. As students, we must learn to be ahead of the curve, in anticipation for the great change for our generation.

Last semester, SJC was greeted by a group of executives from NBC News, which garnered much attention. In a post-lecture interview, one executive turned the tables and asked why the Spirit chooses to remain a print publication despite our crossover into online media. My fellow editors and I responded by agreeing that print was a convenient medium for students to read the news and be involved in school (when not connected to WiFi that is.)

I have realized that as we see someone on the subway reading a particular magazine or newspaper, it says something about that person. We make assumptions about that person based on what they read, say, or tweet. Reading the Spirit News Magazine shows that you are

an involved student, engaging and investing in the school.

The Spirit invites you to be an active member of St. Joseph's College, not only by contributing or reporting stories, but by simply reading the student publication. As this is our first magazine issue of the year, I invite you to send us some tips and what you think we can do better. Be sure to e-mail us, tweet us, facebook us. Our goal is to give back to the school, and as featured in this issue, there are other students whose goal is to do the same.

> Jessica J. Jacolbe @jessjoycej



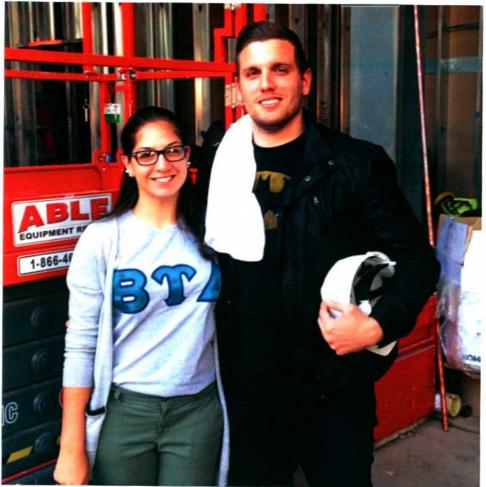


Jessica (LEFT) is pictured with John Savarese, Online Editor, and Laura Lynne Duffy, Assistant Editor, at the Honors Convocation in October 2013

SPECIAL FEATURE

One-On-One With Chris Distefano

BY ANTOINETTE CAMMARANO



Antoinette Cammarano with MTV2's Guy Code, Chris Distefano '06

I walked into SJC like it was any other Tuesday. I knew I had to conduct an interview at Common Hour, and I intended to get some busy work done before then. However, the moment I walked into the Student Life office, I knew that this would be a Tuesday like no other.

As soon as I walked into the office, I was stopped by Jaime Vacca-Hoefner, and was told to immediately follow her. Frank Carbone has stolen the subject of my interview, Chris DeStefano, and unless I acted quickly, I was sure to lose him for good.

Chris DeStefano graduated SJC in 2006. He's a Bushwick, Brooklyn native. He also happens to be on MTV2's Guy Code. Who would've thought this comedian came out of our very own SJC? I certainly didn't.

Once Jaime and I met up with Frank and Chris in the practice gym, and Jaime finished introducing me to the comedian, I was on my own. Frank decided he wanted to tour the new gym, tossed me and Chris a couple of hardhats, and told me I would have to do my interview while we walked. This, I certainly

was not prepared for.

It turned out to be a great experience. Chris was extremely easygoing, and took the new obstacle to our interview in stride. The first question I asked for our interview was "From SJC to MTV - how did you make that happen?" After Chris was done laughing (I'm witty, I know), he stated that he participated in every stand-up comedy gig he could in New York. Even when they were utter failures, "they were rewarding experiences."

While touring the new gym, slated to open up in Spring 2014, I was able to learn a lot about Chris. Once a psychology major in SJC, he was involved with the athletics department, and firmly believes some of his fondest memories were spent in the gym. Among his favorite memories from SJC were his physics classes, which he happened to share with the well-known DJ around campus. DJ Royal, and "Naked Baseball." "Naked Baseball" involved lining the Poland Spring bottles up, and baseball-sliding into them. A lot of his favorite memories from SJC involved baseball-related instances, for that matter.

After graduation, Chris went on to study physical therapy at NYIT, eventually graduating from the program with a degree that enabled him to begin practicing. Although he was in a relatively good profession, Chris knew comedy was where his heart truly was. While he was practicing physical therapy, Chris was continuing to do stand-up comedy shows across New York City.

Chris' "big break" came when he heard about an open casting call for MTV2's *Guy Code*. Vinny from the *Jersey Shore*, was not returning for the second season of the show, and this was a golden opportunity for Chris. According to Chris, the casting directors were looking for Italian men with a Brooklyn accent. The description fit him perfectly.

The rest is history. Chris is now signed to MTV for numerous shows, and appears not only on *Guy Code*

but Girl Code as well. In between his busy, hectic life, he makes time to visit his alma mater in good ol' Brooklyn, New York. SJC students can look to Chris as an inspiration. He may not have excelled in college, but he is currently living his dream. It just goes to show you that you can do whatever you set your mind to Δ



Chris Distefano with members of the sorority Beta Upsilon Delta after performing at SJC on September 17, 2013

Follow Chris: www.chrisdcomedy.com



SPECIAL FEATURE

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

BY ROBERT JURMAN

I am pleased to report that SGA is currently on course. It has been a hectic start, but now everything is smoothly sailing forward. We have been hard at work getting our freshmen exposed to all of our clubs and organizations, while also preparing to deliver the "new" SGA that we have been striving for. It is our mission

to make SGA an all-inclusive, open, and transparent student government. We are here to serve and represent every single student on campus, both undergraduate and graduate. Our goal is to make this SGA the most open and welcoming, while also being the most effective. Our door in Tuohy Hall is always open, and we want to hear from you. Please come in and ask us questions or give comments you may have about something around campus, so that SGA can do something about it. To ensure that we expose ourselves to the student

body, we will be holding a "Meet & Greet" soon so that you can have a chance to speak with your SGA Officers.

To ensure that SGA will be a launching pad of change and action for students, as well as being held accountable to the Student Senate and Student Body, we have re-drafted the SGA Constitution and the SGA Senate will vote on it at the next meeting. Major changes include the addition of the Speaker of the Senate, Senate Resolutions, and the addition of C.A.B. to the Executive Branch. I urge the Senate to pass this Constitution to ensure that in the future, SGA will be better equipped to represent the Students of SJC.

As promised, SGA has reformed the College Advisory

Council. It is made up of the SGA President and 4 members from the SGA Senate. This means that C.A.C. will be meeting with the Administration to discuss major issues such as new I.D. cards, campus renovations, and the new printing limit proposal, which your SGA is firmly against. It may take a couple of years to get these plans into effect, but this is where they start. With the new SGA Constitution in place, future SGA Officers will launch real changes to benefit the student body. This year will certainly be exciting and busy,

but when we leave office, we will leave SGA and SJC a better place than when we arrived. With the support of students and our clubs and organizations, I am confident that we will succeed. Δ

Follow Robert: twitter.com/JurmanforSJC facebook.com/JurmanforSJC SPECIAL FEATURE

TEACHING IS NOT A BACK-UP PLAN

BY DALII A TAHIROVIC

It is particularly around this time of the year - the sun warming, leaves changing, students spending more hours at the library, and professors inputting grades whilst outputting written assignments - where students attempt to decipher their academic standing. Students are worried. I am worried.

As an English/Secondary Education major and Religious Studies minor, I worry about a lot of things (as this is my last year at St. Joseph's College). I worry whether I will graduate on time (although my degree audit suggests that I will), about my lesson plans and thesis, the extracurricular activities I participate in, and if I am good enough. Besides these concerns that pertain to my areas of discipline, I've noticed a particular confusion surrounding the Secondary Education Teaching program from SJC and non-SJC students alike.

As students are panicking about their date of graduation, grades, and other important factors that contribute to whether they will be able to study in the particular field they choose, they are considering a set of "back-up" options if their initial intended choice of study does not "work out," which is a rational and considerably smart thing to consider. Among a few secondary options that I've heard, the most chosen secondary or "back-up" plan field of study is teaching. Unfortunately, considering teaching as a "second option" is not only silly and somewhat naïve, but inconsiderate (of those who go

into the teaching field with a strong belief system that this is "who they are") and quite offensive.

As a future educator, I encourage any single student, SJC or non-SJC, who desires – with much passion and sincerity - to be a leader of our future youth. There is nothing more desirable than to see students inspired to such an extent that they desire to be like those who have influenced them. To witness students who fear failing in their area of study and have chosen education as their "back-up" plan, is not only demeaning to those who take the discipline fairly seriously, but it implies that teaching is easy, which it is not.

Generally, there is this misconception that teaching is one of the easiest jobs because teachers are "off on summers, don't have to work on the weekend, and only work from 9am-3pm," I heard one student say. According to a new report from Scholastic and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Primary Sources: America's Teachers on the Teaching Profession, data quantifies just how hard teachers work: 10 hours and 40 minutes a day on average. That is approximately over a 50-hour work week. Among the many challenges teachers face besides what is obvious, Valerie Strauss, author of the article "Survey: Teachers work 53 hours per week on average" from The Washington Post, records that teachers are seeing the effects of joblessness more than ever. New challenges are facing students, and

these challenges are significant and growing. And according to the chart provided, teachers spend virtually their entire summer planning and getting ready for the next school year.

Especially for students at St. Joseph's College, this data is critical when considering if teaching is the right profession for you. Among the many requirements by New York State, the teaching program at St. Joseph's College also sets rigid requirements of their own. Besides the four teacher certifications a student is required to take (which now, according to the new exams, will cost you over \$100 each), the 100-hours of fieldwork observations includes 2-3 pages of reflection for each visit, which constitutes about 50 reports in total, if not more, depending on the class. Other requirements include a semester of student teaching and the load of work from the rest of your classes (your GPA needs to be above 2.8). Not only must the student be concerned with grade results, but also annual workshops. As the years progress, the requirements get more complex.

Thus, teaching can never be your back-up plan. That will not work well. Teaching is a profession to consider if these factors are taken into account, and the student still finds it worthwhile to influence the minds of young people. Δ

POLITICS & SOCIETY

NYC MAYORAL ELECTION: A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

BY REBECCA PEELER

The New York mayoral election date is set for Nov. 5, 2013. The two primary candidates are the current Public Advocate, Bill de Blasio, and former Metropolitan Transit Authority President, Joseph Lhota. Before heading to the polling booths to cast your vote, consider the two candidates' policies and their directions.

Democratic representative Bill de Blasio campaigned as the anti-Bloomberg, as he lured voters with the "Tale of Two Cities" concept. De Blasio brought up the issue of class and the difference in lifestyles of New Yorkers with different income levels. De Blasio wants to raise taxes for those New Yorkers who are making more than \$500,000/year in order to provide free day care for all Pre-K students in the city. He also campaigned to set up after-school programs for middle school children that would be funded through these taxes. In an interview with The Nation, de Blasio stated that he would immediately raise the minimum wage from \$7.25/hour to \$9.00/hour.

Bill de Blasio's competitor Joe Lhota is a Republican candidate, endorsed by the *New York Times* and the *New York Post*. Lhota has been accusing de Blasio of trying to impose Marxist ideals. Lhota is claiming to be a "unique type of Republican" due to his stance on social issues such as pro-choice, pro-marriage equality, and the legalization of marijuana. During an interview with *The Huffington Post*, he passionately states, "There is no place in this city for racial

profiling." Then when asked if he considered stop-and-frisk as racial profiling, he strongly declares, "No, no I don't."

During an interview with *The Daily News*, Lhota mentions how he would like to "expand the number of jobs and diversify the industries in New York." He plans to invest in the recent college graduates saying, "They are the most entrepreneurial people I have ever met, and I want to give them an opportunity to expand here." For the current college student, this sounds like an ideal plan. Politicians, however, are known for their motivational speeches and ideals, while their delivery is often subpar.

As Election Day nears, their ubiquitous advertisements have been a strong reminder of a major change in office. After what is considered to be the "Bloomberg Era" of New York City, Lhota or de Blasio, will strive to earn your vote in the next few weeks. Δ

CAMPUS LIFE

WORD AROUND CAMPUS

BY JESSICA JACOLBE

What qualities do you want in the next President of SJC, when Sr. Elizabeth retires?



"Someone
who is able to
let the school
grow and prosper"



"Someone who is proactive so students know about the president's role at school"



"A feminist with plenty of experience handling organizations"



"Cares for students and continues the school's tradition"



"Someone who can take action in our community" POLITICS & SOCIETY

POLITICS & SOCIAL MEDIA: HOW TWEET IT IS

BY GRACE CHAMOUN

Having grown up during the same time as the social media evolution, Generation Y has seemingly always used Facebook, Twitter, and other social networks. We grew up using social media to facilitate procrastination, catch our girlfriends or boyfriends cheating, and start up drama. Today, however, social networking carries a different purpose than it did growing up.

Prior to the rise and diversity of social media, information distribution was limited; society was reliant on newspapers and television for information gathering and sharing. This system of only two main ways to obtain information allowed for the creation of severely concentrated news media ownership today. We are in an age where people of the same ad hoc groups are controlling the news media and monopolizing facts. This makes sense when one realizes there are only four major broadcasting conglomerates controlling and monitoring over 200 television channels including FOX News, ABC, CNN, NBC, and more.

Investigative journalists reporting for these news corporations are circumscribed like never before. As Seymour Hersh, renowned investigative journalist, said in an interview with The Guardian, "journalists today do much more of carrying water for the president" than actual undercover and exploratory work. News editors are not exempt from well-deserved ridicule either. In the same interview with Hersh, he said he believes that the only way to fix the media is to "get rid of 90% of the editors that now exist and start promoting editors that you can't control." He went on to say that if he were in charge of the U.S. Media Inc., he would "close down the news bureaus of the networks" and "start all over, tabula rasa." The solution to the stagnation in good reporting is to "just do something different, do something that gets people mad at you, that's what we're supposed to be doing."

Thankfully, the evolution of social media has allowed for the return to the raw reporting that Hersh speaks of. Social media as a news platform allows for challenging the mundane recital of government statements as the status quo of news reporting. Within the realm of social media there are no authoritative powers regulating and restricting the dispersal of information. Posts are written by reallife individuals, from all different walks of life, that are, refreshingly. not minions of our government. For this reason, social media today plays a massive role in politics. It is permanently changing the ways of human communication.

During the 2008 election, there were only 1.5 million tweets pertaining to the presidential election, whereas during the 2012 election, there were well over 31 million. This disparity is not one-dimensionally attributed to the increase of social network users, but more so to the change in demographics of these users as well, i.e. both young and old use social media alike.

Social networking is not changing the game. It is simply returning Journalism to its fundamental purpose: to reveal the truth. Well, it's about damn time. Δ



SIC OPEN HOUSE

MEET US SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 11 AM - 2 PM

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

WANTED: FALSE MEMORIES

BY LAURA LYNNE DUFFY



Since the late 20th century, we have discovered that our memories are nowhere near as accurate as we often believe them to be. Memories are "kept" in collections of cells in the brain, and when events are recalled, we piece together parts of these cells in order to "see" a scene of our past. On the way memories are stored, Dr. Xu Liu of the RIK-**EN-MIT Center for Neural Circuit** Genetics stated, "There are so many brain cells and for each individual memory different combinations [of cells] are activated," but the ways in which these combinations can rearrange themselves to recall a particular memory are limitless. Liu has studied the effect of implanting false memories into the brains of mice. A false memory is a memory created by our minds that we believe we have experienced, but have not. Amazingly, when the mice recalled a false memory, there was no discernible difference in the brain activity from when the mice recalled an actual memory. Liu stated on the inception of false memories, "Our memory changes every single time [its "recording"]. That's why we can incorporate new information into old memories and this is how a false memory can form without us realizing it."

For the past year, artist Alasdair Hopwood has been creating "The False Memory Archive," an unprecedented exhibition that has been collecting false memories of people via online submissions of anecdotes of fake recollections. For example, one man believed his wife's sister had died in a dentist's chair, and so, for years, he hid all of his dentist appointments from her. In reality, his wife had no such sister. From public contributions such as these, Hopwood creates artistic representations of the false memories and their consequences. Hopwood, however, goes beyond gathering these tales of false

pasts to wanting to understand the actual psychology behind them. In previous years, Hopwood did an artist residency at the Anomalistic Psychology Research Unit based at Goldsmiths, University of London. In 2000, this Unit was founded to lead research in the area of anomalistic psychology, the study of explaining paranormal or related beliefs: that is, tricks of the mind in terms of known psychological and physical factors.

This year, with his financial support from the Wellcome Trust, Hopwood will be using the unique and yet complimentary tools of the fields of the arts and the sciences to explore "the role of science engagement in his practice [as an artist] and [will initiate projects that encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration]," as the Wellcome Trust's public announcement stated.

Research into false memories is wildly interesting and gaining increased attention across the spectrum of academic disciplines. In the words of Hopwood, "There's an oddness to it which [is] really engaging." Through his work, he will hopefully raise awareness and provide more understanding of the power of our minds to trick us; while having us convinced that we are anything but tricked. Δ

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

HOW HOLLYWOOD IS SLOWLY DESTROYING ITSELF

BY TREY NORWOOD

This year has been a year full of sequels and adaptations in the movie industry. Only two of the top 10 money makers this year, the animated family film *The Croods* and the female buddy cop move *The Heat*, are movies that are not sequels or adaptations based off of well-known properties. Of those 10 movies, only five of them can really be considered successes because they made more than \$50 million in profit domestically. Thirteen of the top 20 movies are sequels or adaptations of

major books or comic book characters, but they, too, did not make enough money to justify their large budgets.

What do I mean by "making enough money to justify their budgets," you ask? I'll use *The Lone Ranger* as an example. Disney announced about five years ago that they were going to make a movie based off of the Lone Ranger, and Johnny Depp would be portraying his Native Ameri-

can sidekick, Tonto. Yes, you read that right. Johnny Depp was hired to play a Native American sidekick.

Then on August 12, 2011, it was announced that that film was postponed to retool the script in order to minimize the budget. Once the retooling was done, and Armie Hammer (The Social Network) was hired to portray the titular character, the film went into production. Disney's *The Lone Ranger* came out on July 3, 2013 and is now the biggest

box office failure of all time. Even after retooling the script, The Lone Ranger still had a budget of \$215-250 million, not counting the cost of shutting down production on the film and bringing in people to rewrite it for a year. As of September 26, *The Lone Ranger* has only made about \$89.1 million domestically and \$244.8 million worldwide. Disney ended up taking a net worth of \$150 million in losses due to production troubles, in addition to its failure at the box office

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This is an extremely disturbing trend within Hollywood. A large majority of the major releases now have budgets of at least \$100 million. In what world did someone think it would be okay for *The Smurfs 2* to cost \$105 million? Hollywood likes to blame pirating for their profit losses, but it is bloated budgets and high ticket prices that prevent movies from being the major successes that they once were. It costs \$13-\$15 for a movie in 2D. 3D is going to cost

another \$3, and IMAX another \$5-\$8. With prices like these, people are going to budget their time and money to go to the movies that they truly want to see.

Not everyone wants to see The Smurfs 2, Fast and Furious 6, or a film adaptation of The Immortal Instruments. Not every movie needs to be pushed back a year so it can be converted into 3D. If Hollywood continues putting out mediocre, overly expensive sequels, they are going to put themselves out of business. If they do not begin to cut back, then they cannot afford to make four more sequels to The Amazing Spider-Man. As much as I enjoyed The Amazing Spider-Man, I don't want to see six of them.* In addition to cutting back, Hollywood also needs to be more open and accepting to scripts that

do not have a number in the title or are not adapted from the latest young adult novel or erotic romance novel.

There have been plenty of films like *The Conjuring*, *The Heat*, and *The Purge* that have been original ideas and major hits.

I mean, seriously, I'm glad women enjoyed *Fifty*Shades of Grey, but at its core it is nothing more than

porn. I think my older brother said it best, "Why would anyone pay to see that when they can watch it online for free?"

(*This was not a joke. Sony Pictures announced that they want to make *The Amazing Spider-Man* 6. Shooting on *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* wrapped over the summer. Universal also announced that they're going to make *Fast and Furious 7*, 8, and 9. Seriously, I can't make this kind of stuff up.) Δ



"SJC students and faculty members will receive 15% off their entire bill (for parties up to four people) on their first visit"





ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

RESTAURANT REVIEW: THREE LETTERS

BY LAUREN KELLY

When your stomach is just at the point of digesting the free food from common hour, and you're looking for a change from the typical Evodio's fare, Three Letters (930 Fulton Street) just might fit the bill. It is very Brooklyn, in the best of ways. From the "briefly cooked and simply sauced" Green Market Vegetable hors d'oeuvres (which change regularly based on whatever catches the chef's eye at the Farmers Market) and the completely vegan entree of Seitan Aux Trois Soeurs, to a juicy grassfed hamburger with fried pickled onions, there are plenty of options to please anyone.

Wining and dining in Clinton Hill can be pretty pricey on a student budget, but Three Letters is willing to cut SJC students some breaks. Some specials include fried (or fresh) pickle platter and draft combo daily from five thirty to eight for \$8, as well as complimentary hors d'oeuvres when you check-in on Yelp or Foursquare. Additionally, SJC students and faculty members will receive 15% off their entire bill (for parties up to four people) on their first visit through October 15th. Finally, everyday \$5 beers on tap will be available from 5 to 7 P.M., and then again from 8:30 to 11 P.M.

Although Three Letters boasts the Moules Poutine (muscles and gravy poured over fries) as their so called "signature dish," I can speak from experience that the roasted lamb served with eggplant fries and olive oil fromage blanc emulsion is an excellent choice. The zesty lemon seasoning of the tender lamb pairs perfectly with the salty crunch of the zucchini fries. To satisfy a sweet tooth, the chocolate mousse presents a funky twist on a classic favorite. It is best described as a "deconstructed Snickers bar." consisting of a scoop of chocolate

mousse alongside house-made nougat drizzled with caramel and peanuts. Additionally, Three Letters knocks the concept of pickled onion rings out of the park.

If you're looking for a new place to grab a bite in Clinton Hill, Three Letters is one that emanates a true Brooklyn vibe. The environment is relaxed and casual, the staff is friendly, and the food is delicious. Δ

Visit *Three Letters* & mention this article! (718) 622 - 4679 threelettersbrooklyn.com



SPORTS

THREE THINGS TO KNOW THIS NFL SEASON...

BY GRACE CHAMOUN

Mark Sanchez is the most underrated quarterback in the league...

Let's rewind a bit and just remind ourselves of what the rookie Mark Sanchez was like: the University of Southern California graduate set an all-time rookie record by finishing the playoffs with a 138.9 rating. In his rookie year he defeated the heavily favored San Diego Chargers, advancing the Jets to his first AFC championship. This was the first time since Ben Roethlisberger, that a rookie was able to lead his team so deeply into the playoffs. Sanchez repeated this feat the following year by leading the Jets to a consecutive AFC championship, defeating Peyton Manning and ending the Colts' 23-game winning streak.

Although on paper he appears to be a mediocre player, he always came through for his team in clutch situations, as most leaders do. Mark Sanchez's downward spiral was not a result of inadequacy. He was faced with early and anomalous success. The Jets' organization, along with sports media, started to place an excessive amount of pressure to prosper on Sanchez's back. Not only was he faced with the tough challenge of beating himself, but the Jets' organization encumbered him with a massive amount of responsibility. Changes in offensive coordinators and schemes negatively impacted his performance, initiating his statistical demise.

Mark Sanchez is not a bad player. Every proven winner needs to be surrounded by the correct system and supporting cast. He has significant playoff experience and success, enough to make a comeback. So don't throw in the towel just yet for him. With the right opportunity, a fresh start, and a change of scenery, "The Sanchize" will return to his winning ways.

Why Tim Tebow getting cut should break your heart...

Tim Tebow brought more entertainment and excitement to football than any conventional Heisman Trophy winner. Furthermore, Tebow brought character. He increased revenue and drew in mass media attention to every game he played while in Florida. He broke almost every quarterback college record during his four years playing, won two national championships, and earned a life size statue of himself that towers on the University of Florida campus. Tim Tebow led the league in jersey sales and was the focal point of media hysteria, the so-called "Tebow Media Circus." He brought in an extreme amount of revenue for the Broncos and the NFL as a whole.

Football aside, Tim Tebow is a paramount role model. Unlike the customary trash that infiltrates the NFL, like Aaron Hernandez and Michael Vick, Tim Tebow epitomizes what every human being with that much money and leverage should be like. He founded five charitable

organizations that have generated over \$500 million for children with cancer and cerebral palsy. He helped build foster homes for orphans and spent \$1.5 million of his own money to build the Tim Tebow Children's Hospital in the Philippines, where he was born. Before every game that he played, he met with a child suffering from a terminal illness or disability, paid for their tickets, and continued to keep in touch even after the game. Tebow has stated on multiple occasions that helping children is his priority over football, and the potential handicap on that occurrence, due to loss of funding and leverage, is what should break your heart. Tim Tebow is an amazing football player. Regardless of his status as a champion on the field, he is most certainly a champion off it.

Why the Denver Broncos are going to win the Super Bowl...

Peyton Manning. Δ

SPORTS

SJC VOLLEYBALL: CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP

BY ANNA CARBONE



The women's volleyball team can almost taste the gold. Last year, the Lady Bears were regular season champs, coming in First Place prior to Playoffs, but to their dismay, they lost in semifinals. They have a few regular season games left, but as of October 18th, the Lady Bears are 9-6 with a .600 Win percentage. As the season progresses, it's evident that the Lady Bears can't be stopped.

The beginning of the season looked hopeful after a 3-0 win over Cooper Union, but that outlook quickly diminished after the first home game versus rivals SJC Patchogue that resulted in a 3-1 loss. This game was followed by an additional two losses. The losing streak was ended as they won the next 8 out of 11 games. This put the Lady Bears in First Place in the Hudson Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (HVIAC). Despite the occasional loss, the small size of the team plays a role in their success. I did not think it was possible for the team to grow as close as they already are, but I was proved wrong. From a short trip to Pennsylvania to an exciting visit to Washington, D.C. during the government shutdown, the Lady Bears became a family, which is important for every sport more than the actual talent. The tight-knit bond they have and the sportsmanship with a combination of impeccable skill and consistency of the Lady

Bears contribute to their continuous success.

Sophomore middle hitter, Lauren GaNun, leads the team offensively with 205 kills, alongside senior middle hitter, Megan Moran, with 153 kills. GaNun is ranked nationally in

kills per set placing 30th overall out of NCAA Division III players in the nation and was Player of the Week for the Association of D3 Independents, United States Collegiate Athletic Association, and twice for the HVIAC. Sophomore outside hitter and your author Anna Carbone, follows closely behind with 170 digs. Moncino is also ranked nationally, being in 16th in the NCAA D3 League for service aces per set, and the team is ranked 21st as a whole for service aces. Senior setter Sabrina Cornia, has an outstanding 340 assists.

With these accomplishments and statistics, the Lady Bears are championship bound. Their game on Sunday, October 20th against The Culinary Institute of America will determine whether they clinch First Place. The regular season ends Wednesday, October 23rd against Brooklyn College. Semifinals and finals are being held on Sunday, October 27th at the College of New Rochelle, and as Moncino says, "The odds are ever in our favor."

The Lady Bears last home game is on Tuesday, October 22nd at Brooklyn Technical High School. Hopefully, this will be the last home game before the new gymnasium opens on Vanderbilt Avenue! Come support the team! #ladybearscantstop Δ



LIFESTYLE

ON TWITTER PARODIES: TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

BY JESSICA JACOLBE

If you're a Twitter junkie like I am, then you've probably encountered a @Horse ebooks tweet at one point as you scrolled through your feed and disregarded it as SPAM. Recently, it was reported that the account that has developed its own cult following is in fact fake. What was thought to be an account run by spambots was controlled by humans. I wanted so badly to believe in its nonsensical and spam-like tweets, just as I do with all fascinating things on the Internet.

The whole magic of Twitter is that the only way to be "popular" is by staying topical and generating buzz. Being creative online can only provide a fleeting moment of fame, since what is popular today is gone tomorrow. Parody accounts have garnered notoriety since the fallout of @Horse ebooks. No one knows the faces behind the accounts. but this anonymity is what plays well with their followers, à la Gossip Girl.

Maybe it's better off to leave the wizard behind the curtain. In an article from *The New Yorker*

that debates whether or not parody accounts should remain anonymous, Matt Buchanan writes that, "The primary currency of social media is fame, and it is fame that drives the authors of popular parody accounts to uncloak themselves, destroying the account in the process." For now, we just pretend that we really don't have anything better to do than to scroll through an endless void of hilarious tweets. All it takes is a free Twitter account and some creative genius to create the next greatest meme that lasts a few days, which in the Internet 'Age, is forever.

Here are some parody accounts that you should be following right now. Let us know on Twitter if we missed any. Δ



UPCOMING EVENTS

LOOKING AHEAD: NOVEMBER

RENT

Presented by SJC Chapel Players Thursday, November 7th - Sunday, November 10th

Veteran's Day Celebration

Monday, Novermber 11th 12:40 PM & 6:00 PM

C. A. B. Movie Night

featuring "The Hunger Games"
Thursday, November 14th
6:00 PM

Fall Concert

Presented by SJC Dance Club Thursday, November 21st - Friday, November 22nd

Beads of the World: Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 17th 12:40 PM

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